

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 64, adopted March 5, 2013, the appointment of the following Senator as a member of the Senate National Security Working Group for the 113th Congress: ROBERT MENENDEZ of New Jersey (Majority Co-Chairman), vice Frank R. Lautenberg of New Jersey (Majority Co-Chairman).

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2013

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 11, 2013; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 744, the comprehensive immigration reform bill, under the previous order; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly caucus meetings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. BROWN. Tomorrow at 2:15 p.m., there will be a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to the immigration bill. If cloture is invoked, there will be a second vote at 4 p.m. to adopt the motion to proceed and begin consideration of the bill.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. BROWN. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn following the remarks of Senator SESSIONS, as provided for under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COCHRAN. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, we are looking at now and considering an immigration bill. S. 744 is before us. This is a two-volume set consisting of over 1,000 pages, and unfortunately it

doesn't do what its sponsors say it does. It doesn't provide the security and other important items we want in an immigration reform bill, and therefore it cannot be passed in its present form and should not be passed in that form. It is just that simple.

This is a big, important issue. When we pass immigration reform, we do not need to be back in the situation that occurred in 1986 when they passed immigration reform and promised to do enforcement in the future. We gave the amnesty immediately, and the promises of enforcement never occurred. This is not a little matter. It has resulted in 11 million people now being in our country illegally. This is a result directly of the failure of the 1986 bill to carry out its enforcement promises, a direct result of Presidents and Congress not insisting that happen.

So there is a general consensus even among the Gang of 8 that Congress and the President can't be trusted, and we need to have legislation that somehow mandates that to happen because we have to have—in their minds—the amnesty first. That is just the way it has to be, and once that is given, well, we will promise to take care of it in the future.

I have been discussing the two aspects of immigration that cause us to have the illegal immigrants. The first part is obvious—it is people who cross the border illegally. At any number of our borders and ports, they come in illegally, and that is a big part of our problem—actually, though, only 60 percent. Forty percent of the problem is the people coming into our country legally on a visa. The others just come illegally. They have no right to enter the country; they just enter. These have a right to enter the country. They come in on a visa and they just don't go home. They just stay. And history tells them nothing ever happens. Nobody knows they didn't return home. Nobody clocks them out when they go home. Nobody knows they are here, and they just stay.

The President of the United States, through the Secretary of Homeland Security, has directed its ICE agents—Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers who are all over and around our country, although small in number, about 5,000—to basically not execute any deportation proceedings against anybody—almost none. They have to be convicted of a big felony, a serious crime, and only then do they initiate deportation.

We also have cities that are failing to support the Federal Government in any way. When they catch somebody for a crime in their city and discover they are illegally in the country, they won't notify the Federal Government they are there so they can come and pick them up and carry out the deportation that is required. This is the kind of sad state we are in, and it certainly is a sad state indeed.

So the American people, by a 4-to-1 margin in a poll of just a few days ago,

said: We are prepared to be generous to people who entered the country illegally and haven't gotten into trouble. We will be compassionate to them. But we want to see the enforcement occur. By a 4-to-1 margin, that poll showed that the American people said the enforcement should come first before we grant the legality—before we give the amnesty. Now, isn't that good common sense?

As I go through the second part of my concern about this process, you will see the ineffectiveness and unwillingness of the Federal Government to fulfill its role of ensuring that our sovereignty is defended through the elimination of illegal immigration. And we can do that. We can do it, but we are not doing it.

So the first part, dealing with the border, as I mentioned today, they softened the current law.

Current law is you have to have 100 percent operational control at the border. Under the standards they utilize there, this bill says 90 percent of border patrol encounters and otherwise reduces the enforceability and the enforcement standards of making sure our border is lawful.

I would just say, first and foremost, each one of these matters are exceedingly complex and must be done properly. As we talked about earlier, the crafting of legislation necessary to ensure that our border is lawful requires a lot of work and a lot of different strategies and capabilities for our men and women who are out there at risk enforcing that law. That is the fundamental reason we should have legislation that goes step by step. We should have a piece of legislation that has been worked on very hard involving Immigration and Border Patrol officers. That legislation should be brought forth and we would pass it to fix the border.

Then, the second part, as I am talking about today, the entry-exit visa situation where people enter the country lawfully according to a visa but don't return to their home country, that has its own unique and complex systems that need to be dealt with, and that needs to be done independently and separately. We need a separate and independent analysis of how to deal with the workplace to ensure that people who come into the country illegally don't get jobs in the future. We have to end this.

So I am taking the bill at its word. They want to give legal status to everybody who is here. So what do we do to try to ensure this doesn't happen again in the future? We are not saying go out and try to find everybody who is in the country illegally and capture and deport them. That is not a practical solution at this point in our history. We do need to figure out how to compassionately deal with those individuals, but we don't need to be where we can't enforce the law in the future so we have another amnesty upon us,